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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal</b>  Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	09/560,469
	Filing Date	April 28, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Joseph A. FERNANDO et al.
	Art Unit	1764
	Examiner Name	Hien Tran
	Attorney Docket Number	UNF-9058 A

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**  
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-3275. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

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ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

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iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 790.00 is enclosed.

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Signature	<i>Joseph G. Curatolo</i>	Date	8-19-2005
Name (Print/Type)	Joseph G. Curatolo, Esq.	Registration No.	28,837

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail - Label No. EV698630075US - "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to: **MAIL STOP RCE, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**

Signature	<i>Linda K. Foster</i>	Date	8-19-2005
Name (Print/Type)	Linda K. Foster		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.  
If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Joseph A. FERNANDO et al.      Docket No.: UNF-9058 A  
Serial No: 09/560,469      Examiner: Hien Tran  
Filed: April 28, 2000      Group Art Unit: 1764  
Title: Support Element For Fragile Structures Such As Catalytic Converters

**MAIL STOP RCE**

**Commissioner for Patents**

**P.O. Box 1450**

**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

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Linda K. Foster  
(type or print name of person signing paper)

Linda K. Foster  
(signature of person mailing paper)

8-19-2005  
(date)

**TRANSMITTAL SHEET**

Enclosed is:

Transmittal Sheet with Certificate of Mailing and Authorization to Charge Deposit Account  
(1 page - in duplicate)  
Request for Continued Examination (37 CFR §1.114) (1 page - in duplicate)  
Submission Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.114 (15 pages)  
Check in the Amount of \$790.00  
Return Receipt Postcard

**Authorization to Charge Deposit Account**

In the event an additional fee is applicable to the filing of this document and the required fee is not enclosed, or the fee submitted is insufficient, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Docket No. UNF-9058 A which might be required to effect the filing of this (these) document(s) to Account No. 50-3275. This certificate is being submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph G. Curatolo

Customer No. 23575

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Attorney for Applicants

8-19-2005

Date



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Joseph A. FERNANDO et al      Docket No.: UNF-9058 A  
Serial No: 09/560,469      Examiner: HIEN TRAN  
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Title: Support Element For Fragile Structures Such As Catalytic Converters

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P. O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**

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Linda K. Foster

(type or print name of person signing paper)

Linda K. Foster

(signature of person mailing paper)

8-19-2005

(date)

**SUBMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

To the Honorable Commissioner for Patents:

**I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Applicants, through their undersigned attorney, hereby respectfully submit the present Request for Continued Examination of United States Serial No. 09/560,469.

The filing of the present Request for Continued Examination follows the June 30, 2005 mailing date by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences of its Decision on Appeal in this application.

Following a decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, prosecution of a patent application may be reopened by the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. See 37 C.F.R. §1.198. The time for filing a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or for commencing a civil action is two months from the date of the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. See 37 C.F.R. §1.304. The filing of a Request for Continued Examination after a decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences within the two month period for filing a notice of appeal or civil action also is timely. See MPEP §706.07(h)(XI). Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the present Request for Continued Examination is timely filed.

**Amendments to Claims/Claims Listing** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.